

REMARKS

As an initial matter, Applicant's counsel discussed the finality of the May 31, 2006 Office Action with the Examiner in a Phone Interview on July 13, 2006. During this Interview, the Examiner agreed that the finality was premature because the Amendments to the Claims contained in the RCE were the same Amendments that were denied entry when submitted in response to the Final Action that preceded the RCE filing. Per the Examiner's instruction in this Interview, Applicant is responding to the May 31, 2006 as if it were a Non-Final Action.

In response to the May 31, 2006 Office Action, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of Claims 1-5. In the Response to Arguments section, the Examiner recognizes that the structure in Crisp, U.S. Patent No. 4,900,087, cited by the Examiner in the prior Office Action does not teach the limitations that the claimed child seat must have first and second components of the infant restraint system located on the first and second child seat portions respectively. This recognition was necessitated by the fact that the structure comprising Crisp's infant restraint system, items 52, 54, and 56, are attached to insert 42 rather than to the first and second child seat portions.

Despite this recognition, the Examiner further concludes that these limitations are present in different structure in Crisp stating "Crisp also teaches having first and second components of the infant restraint systems restraining a toddler when in the forwardly facing position of the seat assembly that are located on the child seat portions, not on insert 42."

While Applicant does not necessarily disagree with the Examiner's conclusion regarding the location of the components in Crisp that form Crisp's restraint system for toddlers seated in a forward facing position, Applicant respectfully notes that this system is not an "infant" restraint system, which the Examiner recognized by referring to it as a system for "restraining a toddler." It is generally known to those of skill in the art that car seats suitable for use by an infant must

provide for the infant to be restrained in a rear-facing position. Moreover, in Paragraph 39 of the Specification, Applicant states that "the infant back supporting area 32 of the second child seat portion 20 at least generally faces the backrest 14 of the seat assembly and may be employed in an infant seat arrangement of the seat assembly 10." Thus, the Applicant has defined the infant seating position to be a rear facing position.

Since the infant seating position is a rear-facing position, it follows that the components of the infant restraint system must function to restrain an infant in such a rear facing position. Applicant respectfully asserts that the structure in Crisp cited in the present Office Action, items 64 and 62, as corresponding to the first and second components of the infant restraint system respectively simply do not teach this limitation because these items are part of a restraint system for a toddler seated in a forward facing position.

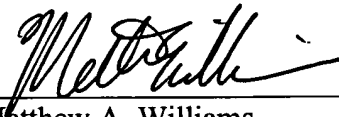
Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 1-5 be removed.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that claims 1-5 are in condition for allowance and requests such a disposition.

If a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the undersigned may be called at 502-562-7378. Alternatively, H. Roy Berkenstock may be contacted at 901-537-1108.

Respectfully submitted,



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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or any future papers, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No 502346 for any such fees; and applicant hereby petitions for any needed extension of time.